

Docket: 2884  
(203-3592PCTUS)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**APPLICANT(S):** Bruce Jankowski      **EXAMINER:** To Be Assigned  
**SERIAL NO.:** To Be Assigned      **GROUP UNIT:** To Be Assigned  
**FILED:** Concurrently Herewith  
**TITLE:** VACUUM ASSISTED SURGICAL STAPLER

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir/Madam:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

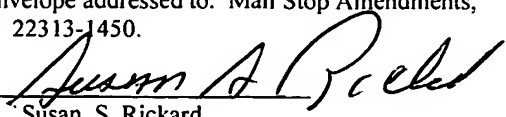
**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 3 of this paper.

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**CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.10**

I hereby certify that this correspondence and the documents referred to as enclosed are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on date below in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendments, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: 6/20/05

  
Susan S. Rickard